

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 2 are independent.

By this Amendment, claims 1-6 are amended for clarity. Claims 9-14 are added to correspond to claims 3-8, respectively, and to depend from claim 2.

The specification is amended to add a cross reference to the base PCT application and to the priority document. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the specification. This objection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that the specification, at page 1, should contain cross-reference to related applications. This assertion is unreasonable. The cross-references to the PCT application and the priority Japanese application are already listed in the declaration and the application data sheet of this application. Thus, Applicants are not required to further cross-reference those applications on the first page of the specification. However, the specification is amended to include the cross reference, as the Examiner requested, to expedite allowance.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Office Action asserts that claims 1-3 contain vague and/or confusing terms.

Claims 1-6 are amended for clarity, as outlined above, in response to this rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 29, 2009

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